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LOCAL FEDERAL PROSECUTOR HONORED WITH DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AWARD

PHOENIX - The Department of Justice held its 24th annual Executive Office for United States Attorneys (EOUSA) Director's Awards Ceremony today, during which 132 award recipients were recognized for their excellence in law enforcement. Recipients included Assistant United States Attorneys, litigation and information technology support personnel, and others who have made outstanding contributions in federal, state and local law enforcement.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Kimberly Hare received an award for Superior Performance for developing and coordinating the Tribal Methamphetamine Initiative in the District of Arizona, with emphasis on the Navajo Nation, the largest Indian nation in the United States. Ms. Hare developed a task force model in fighting methamphetamine distribution on the Navajo Nation with the goal of ultimately reducing the level of violent crime. This novel approach resulted in the arrest and prosecution of numerous methamphetamine dealers from small communities on the reservation and put them out of business.

"Those that we are honoring today are some of the Department's finest public servants," said Acting Attorney General Peter D. Keisler. "Through their leadership and integrity in carrying out the Department's mission, those of us in the Department and the citizens in the communities they serve can be proud of the duties they perform on our behalf every day"

While terrorism remains the top priority of the Department of Justice, the Department has continued its mission to enforce all of our nation's laws, including prosecuting civil rights violations, gang violence and drug crimes, as well as representing our client agencies, conducting civil enforcement, and assisting victims of crime.

U.S. Attorney Daniel G. Knauss stated that "We are proud that Ms. Hare is being recognized at this level for her outstanding efforts. Eliminating sources of methamphetamine in remote communities has had a significant positive impact on the reservation."

The Executive Office for United States Attorneys provides oversight, general executive assistance, and direction to the 94 United States Attorneys' offices around the country. For more information on EOUSA and its mission, visit http://www.usdoj.gov/usao.

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